

Mr. Taoufik BACCAR, Governor of the Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT) held, on Wednesday 21 October 2009 in Tunis, a press conference and indicated that the new presidential electoral programme is based on a strategic perspective that aims at preserving interest of future generations, guaranteeing lasting development, achieving more social cohesiveness and further opening on abroad.

The Governor of the BCT added that the target of this programme consists in preparing Tunisia to reach the ranking of developed countries, ensuring life quality and prosperity for the Tunisians, creating the highest number of jobs and making general the social coverage.

He noted that Tunisia's development orientation consists in relying on itself, boosting partnership with brother and friendly countries, notably, with the European Union, conferring to the economy of the country the required efficiency and fairly sharing out the country's wealth.

The Governor underlined the economic objectives of the presidential programme which aim at restoring the usual level of growth, increasing it again and promoting a high technology content economy (friend of the environment, conserving energy and of an innovative nature), further to conducting an efficient financial policy and a fair tax system.

He stated that the programme aims also at making from Tunisia a pole of banking services and a regional financial centre while rising banks minimum capital up to 100 MTD and decreasing to less than 7% the share of non-performing loans.

The Governor of the BCT indicated also that achievement of this target is based on full convertibility of the dinar before the end of 2014, further to preserving of financial balance, making available significant resources in foreign currency, boosting of financial bases at banks, greater flexibility in foreign exchange and more efficiency of the monetary policy.

As for the tax system, Mr. BACCAR noted that the presidential electoral programme aims at pursuing the tax reform, reducing customs duties and multifariousness of rates.

This involves also lightening corporate and individual tax pressure and setting a specific tax regime for small and medium-sized businesses.